



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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One in six 15 to 64 year olds have attained a Bachelor Degree or higher

One in six people (17%) aged 15 to 64 had a highest educational attainment of Bachelor degree or higher, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

A highest educational attainment of Year 12 was reported by 17%, followed by Certificate III or IV (15%). Slightly under one-third (31%) of people had a highest level of educational attainment of Year 10 or below.

Other key findings relating to education were that of the 13 million people aged 15 to 64:

- one-third had one non-school qualification, with 12% having two, and 6% three or more;
- one in five enrolled to study in 2001, of whom 72% were studying towards a non-school qualification;
- one in five people not at school wanted to, but did not, undertake some study or more study in the 12 months prior to the survey; and
- one-quarter intended to enrol to study for a qualification in the next three years.

The ABS figures also show that considerably more people are attending work-related training courses but the courses themselves are shrinking in duration.

In the year prior to the 2001 Survey of Education and Training, 45% of 15 to 64 year olds who had left school and were either working, or wanted to work, had completed a work-related training course. This compares with 42% in 1997 and 30% in 1993.

However, since 1997 the average duration of training courses completed by wage or salary earners has fallen by 3.2 hours to 17.4 hours in 2001.

Further details are in **Education and Training Experience, Australia, 2001** (cat. no. 6278.0).

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